



Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A shaking incubator comprising:

at least one specimen storage device disposed within an incubator workspace; and

a plurality of superposed specimen storage spaces₁ located within the at least one specimen storage device₁ wherein each of the superposed specimen storage spaces comprises:

a specimen storage position;

a horizontally disposed and individually controllable shaking platform ~~disposed horizontally adjacent;~~ and

a base unit ~~arranged in at least one specimen storage space wherein the superposed specimen storage spaces are configured to be individually and independently controlled.~~
2. (Currently Amended) The shaking incubator according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the base unit of the at least one shaking unit is permanently connected to the specimen storage device.
3. (Currently Amended) The shaking incubator according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ further comprising a detachable holder for the at least one shaking unit of a specimen storage device is formed at a specimen storage space in such a manner that the at least one shaking unit can be removed as required from the specimen storage device.

4. (Currently Amended) The shaking incubator according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the specimen storage position of the at least one shaking unit is designed for a specimen to be supplied by means of an automated transport system and for a specimen to be removed from the specimen storage position by an automated transport system.

5. (Currently Amended) The shaking incubator according to Claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the specimen storage position of the at least one shaking unit comprises a spacer element, arranged on the shaking platform, which creates free space for manipulating a specimen located in the specimen storage position.

6. (Currently Amended) The shaking incubator according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the specimen storage position of the at least one shaking unit comprises at least one clamping element arranged on the shaking platform or on the spacer element.

7. (Currently Amended) The shaking incubator according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least one control unit for controlling and supplying current to the at least one shaking unit is arranged outside of the incubator workspace, from which control unit a control/supply line runs into the incubator workspace, this control supply line having a line connector in the incubator workspace.

8. (Currently Amended) The shaking incubator according to Claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the at least one shaking unit is connected via a detachable line connection to the line connector of the at least one control unit.

9. (Currently Amended) The shaking incubator according to Claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~
further comprising a distributor unit for connecting several shaking units is arranged in the
incubator workspace and is connected via a detachable line connection to the line connector.

10. (Currently Amended) The shaking incubator according to Claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~
further comprising a distributor unit for connecting several shaking units is arranged on a
specimen storage device.

11. (Currently Amended) The shaking incubator according to Claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~
further comprising a distributor unit for connecting several shaking units is arranged on several
specimen storage devices.

12. (Currently Amended) The shaking incubator according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein the shaking platform of a shaking unit is configured to return to a central zero position
after the power has been turned off.

13. (Currently Amended) The shaking incubator according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
further comprising a shaking unit ~~[[is]]~~ arranged in ~~several~~ each of the specimen storage spaces
and that the shaking platforms of each of these shaking units can be controlled ~~individually and~~
independently of each other by the at least one control unit.

14. (Currently Amended) A shaking unit, comprising:
- a base;
 - a shaking platform coupled to the base;
 - a spacer disposed above and coupled to the shaking platform;
 - a clamping element disposed above and coupled to the spacer; and
 - a specimen storage unit disposed above and removably coupled to the clamping element,
- wherein the specimen storage unit is configured to house at least a plurality of specimens.
15. (Previously Presented) The shaking unit of claim 14, wherein the base is configured to be permanently affixed to a specimen storage device housing the shaking unit.
16. (Previously Presented) The shaking unit of claim 14, wherein the shaking platform is detachably coupled to the base.
17. (Previously Presented) The shaking unit of claim 14, wherein the spacer is configured to allow for a sufficient area in order to manipulate a specimen located in the specimen storage unit.
18. (Previously Presented) The shaking unit of claim 14, further comprising a control unit for controlling and supplying current to the shaking unit, wherein the control unit is configured to couple to a line connector of the shaking unit.

19. (Previously Presented) The shaking unit of claim 18, wherein the control unit further comprises a detachable line connection configured to couple to the line connector of the shaking unit.

20. (Previously Presented) The shaking unit of claim 14, wherein the shaking unit comprises a plurality of shaking units coupled together by a distributor unit and wherein the distributor line couples to a detachable line connection of a control unit.